

TO THE WHIGS AND CONSERVATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

WASHINGTON, August 25, 1840.

The splendid election results just announced from the States of North Carolina, Kentucky and Indiana, gladden the heart of the patriot, and stimulate him to greater efforts in the service of his country. In these States, the enemies of the Constitution and of the prosperity of the Republic are annihilated. The Destructives are panic stricken—turn which way they may, their affrighted vision is startled with the “hand-writing on the wall.” In Alabama, they have barely escaped defeat. Missouri is “coming to the rescue.” With forced but feeble shouts, they exult over Illinois, and rejoice that they have been able—to hold their own.

Since the nomination of Gen. Harrison, the States of *Connecticut, Rhode Island, Virginia, Louisiana and North Carolina*, all of which voted for Martin Van Buren in 1836, have proclaimed in no equivocal language, their allegiance to the country and its Constitution.

The information which we have received, and which we continue to receive from the States of Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia is well calculated to inspire us with fresh confidence in the intelligence and patriotism of the people, and with the conviction that their slumbering vengeance is awakened into life and action, ready to lay hold of the pillars of the temple, which corruption has raised on the ruins of the Constitution and welfare of the nation, and crush beneath its fragments its power-grasping and infatuated architects.

Excessive confidence in our own strength is the only danger to be apprehended. Let us not rest in fancied security. Let us not repose on our laurels so freshly and gallantly won, but rush into the battle field in quest of new achievements. The enemy is rich in the means of corruption, and they will use them with no sparing hand. A mercenary legion of one hundred thousand office-holders, who fight for their salaries and their bread, are arrayed against you. The money of the people, now in the hands of the President by his Sub-treasurers, will tickle the palms of the purchasable. A ribald and stipendary press, sustained by government patronage, will scatter its vile trash among you. To meet successfully these fearful odds against you, requires vigorous and untiring exertions. Let us not fear that our majorities will be too overwhelming.

The Administration and the principles on which it acts should not only be prostrated, but prostrated *effectually and forever*. It should pass to its long account amid the exultations of immense majorities, and without the hope of a resurrection. The rebuke about to be administered should not only be severe, but astounding. It is due to the constitution—to the country—to retributive justice, and to posterity, that the political crimes of this administration should be marked with a reprobation deep as your sufferings, and broad as the Union. The “*hic jacet*” which the people are about to write on its tomb should be in capitals, bold and prominent as are its derelictions from duty. Thus written, it will stand through future ages as a political “*memento mori*” to any person who, “dressed in a little brief authority,” shall play the tyrant, forgetful of the power that made him.

Is there a patriot in the land whose bosom does not swell with pride and exultation at the brilliant prosperity now dawning on his desecrated country? On the 4th of March next, history, with iron pen, will inscribe on her marble tablets, on this day, by the almost unanimous voice of a confiding, abused, and intelligent people, was banished from the Capitol the first American Nero, who laughed at the calamities with which he had scourged his countrymen, mocked at the sufferings which he had created, and tauntingly told them “that they looked to Government for too much.”

Then will the country shake off the shackles with which folly and madness had bound her young and vigorous limbs, rise with new strength, and press onward to her high destiny. And who among you will not, on that auspicious day, join the joyous song, and with honest pride and patriotic exultation, mingle your voice with the shouts of millions, and exclaim, “I too fought at the battle of Waterloo.” To all such who have up to this period stood by as idle spectators of this fierce conflict now being waged between the people and the office-holders, let us say, “delay no longer. Inaction now is dangerous to the Republic. Rally on the side of your country, and prove your love to her institutions.”

We use no hyperbole when we say that she is but one remove from a practical monarchy! Give to Mr. Van Buren a standing army of 200,000 men, and your liberties are at an end. Already is he in the possession of the entire revenues of the country. The national purse is at his unlicensed control. Think you that he will abandon his wild schemes of an over-wrought ambition? Think you that he will cease to urge upon the conside-

ration of Congress the monstrous project of an immense standing army? Think you that there is in Congress independence sufficient to deny him *any* request? No, no—"Lay not that flattering unction to your souls." Who could have been found on the first day of January, 1837, bold enough to have predicted that a measure, which had been denounced by nearly the unanimous voice of the people, "disorganizing and revolutionary," "as subversive of the principles of the Government from its earliest history," "as enlarging to an alarming extent the boundaries of Executive power," would at this time have been the law of the land? But such is the melancholy fact! The National Legislature furnishes you with no protection, no guaranty against the exactions of Executive power. It is the fundamental law of "the party" that the President "can do no wrong." His will is the law of "the party," both in and out of Congress, and woe to the man who dares to oppose it. He is denounced as a traitor and renegade.

The sleek hounds of the Executive, thirsty for blood, are unleashed from their kennels, and with eager scent pursue the object of their hate. They soon banquet on the mutilated carcass; with crimsoned muzzles they return to their master, giving gratifying evidences that his orders have been faithfully executed, and are again kept in reserve for some fresh victim of Executive vengeance. Under this reign of terror and proscription, place no dependence on Congress. It is no longer a shield between the rights of the people and the usurpation of the President. It caters for Executive gratification, and panders to his cravings for power. The same men who, but a short time since, spoke of a Sub-treasury bill with horror, and who now condemn the standing army project with apparent sincerity, will, at the bidding of the President, adopt the latter with as much unanimity as they enacted the former. The same servile partizan majority who here gave him the "*purse*," who at his nod disfranchised, blindly disfranchised, a Sovereign State without reading one syllable of the evidence, will not hesitate to arm him with the "*sword*" also.

There is but one step between the President and despotic power. Lose no time in throwing yourselves between them. If you value your liberties, achieved by the blood of your fathers—if you would hand them over unimpaired to your children, hesitate no longer, but join the army of patriots marching to victory under the banner of the Constitution, and of "Harrison and Reform."

The history of the last six months admonishes us to warn you against the falsehoods and calumnies of the administration press. Within that period, you have been told that General Harrison was a "weak, imbecile old man, in his dotage." The ink with which the slander was penned was scarcely dry, when we heard of him at Fort Meigs, one of the scenes of his glory, addressing in the full voice of vigorous manhood, and with the fervor of youth, an immense multitude on the great subjects which so deeply agitate the public mind, and vindicating his fair fame from the aspersions which malignity has attempted to cast upon it. More recently has he visited Fort Greenville, and again, with his usual ability and eloquence, addressed a large concourse of his fellow-citizens. Soon, perchance, the feed libellers of the Executive organs may announce that he is the victim of disease, and in the last stage of mortality; and attempt to prove it, too, by the affidavits of some of their vile retainers. Within that period, you have also been told that he was in the custody of "keepers," immured in an "iron cage." Be not surprised if you should ere long be informed, by the same authority, that he had become the inmate of a mad-house, and that it should be vouched for by the same "*respectable*" testimony. Allow us, then, to warn you against yielding the slightest belief to the thousand slanders with which the mendicant press at the Capital, and its partizan adjuncts throughout the country, will abound from this time to the close of the elections. Already have they falsified the records of the past, committed forgeries, and scattered their libels broadcast over the land.

Permit us, also, to call your serious consideration to the importance of an efficient organization. Hitherto you have been beaten more by the force of the superior drill and discipline of your opponents, than by numerical strength; or, rather, their perfect organization has enabled them to bring all their forces into the field against you. That organization, in the Northern States especially, extends to the appointment of committees in all the School Districts in the several towns. Let us take lessons in this respect from the enemy. For the first time, we now present an unbroken and undivided front, writhing under a common suffering, and animated by a common hope. Let every friend of his country's welfare be at his post, and in a few short weeks he will witness the total overthrow of the author of her calamity.

R. GARLAND, of Louisiana,
Chairman of Committee.

J. C. CLARK, of New York,
Secretary.

WASHINGTON, *September 1, 1840.*

*Central Whig Committee of }
county. }*

GENTLEMEN :

Allow us to call your earnest attention to the great importance of an immediate and efficient political organization. To be efficient, it must be minute. Exclusive of the county and town committees, a committee-man, the most active and intelligent, should be appointed in each *School District*. A report from him to the town committee, and by the latter to the county committee, would inform accurately of our strength; each voter's name would be given, distinguishing the good, bad, and doubtful. The latter being known, could be appealed to, and in many instances with success, by the love they bore their country, to rally in support of its great interests.

It would be the duty of the School District committee to urge every friend of Republican Institutions to go to the polls; not one vote should be lost. Conveyances should be furnished to the aged and infirm who have none, to enable them to deposit their ballots.

We hope such an organization has been effected. If so, well; if not, let us entreat you, as you value your rights and liberties, to lose no time in effecting it.

Your obedient servant,

J. C. CLARK, of New York,
Secretary.

R. GARLAND, of Louisiana,
Chairman of Committee.

P. S. Please transmit a copy to each town committee.

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